

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 6, 2023

7:00PM Council Meeting

THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. Call to Order by presiding officer
Moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call (if quorum is not present, the meeting shall thereupon be Adjourned to a specific date by the majority vote of those present)
3. Review and approval of agenda.
4. Presentation
5. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Agenda Items
6. Approval of the preceding meeting minutes if correct and rectifying mistakes if any exist.
7. Business Not Ready for Action or No Action Needed
8. Old Business
9. Introduction of Ordinances and Resolutions
10. New Business
11. Added Items
12. Citizen Correspondence/Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items
13. Adjournment

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER: Council President Nelson Learn

ITEM 2. ROLL CALL (Attendance)

<u>COUNCIL MEMBERS</u> <u>& MAYOR</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT	<u>OFFICERS</u>	PRESENT	ABSENT
LEARN	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
JARRETT	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Chief of Police	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
LEWIS	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Solicitor	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
MOCCIA	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Engineer	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
TALANCA	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	DPW Foreman	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
TROIANI	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	Reporter(s)	<u>Susan Schwartz (PE)</u>	
WOZNIAK	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Fire Chief	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
MAYOR BURKE	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			
DAMIEN SCOBLINK, MANAGER	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>			

BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:00 PM THIS EVENING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING SPECIFIC POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONEL.

ITEM 3. REVIEW & APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA:

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Lewis

All in favor, agenda approved.

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: Teri Provost, SEDA-COG - HOME Grant

ITEM 5. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Agenda Items

None

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETINGS

- Regular Council Meeting of February 20, 2023.

Discussion - None

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Moccia

All in favor, minutes approved.

ITEM 7. BUSINESS NOT READY FOR ACTION:

1. Chief Strish Contract - Personnel Committee will address further.
2. Police Large Evidence Storage Building - Borough Manager requested patience as we await update on possible solution.
3. Large Vehicle Parking - Council request that Borough Manager draft update to ordinance to allow for weight of up to 16,000 lbs., rather than current 13,000 lbs.
4. Borough IT Provider - Borough Manager questioned if anyone on Council wished to be involved in interviews. Councilperson Lewis expressed interest.
5. Part-Time Codes Officer - Borough Manager questioned if anyone on Council wished to be involved in interviews. Councilperson Moccia expressed interest.
6. Comcast Franchise Agreement - Borough Manager noted that solicitor has given approval for Council to accept agreement. Will be put on next agenda.
7. Around the Table
 - a. Mr. Jarrett noted that there was a request to hold a Christian music festival at Test Track Park, and asked that consideration be added to agenda.
 - b. Mr. Jarrett noted that Beyond Violence 5K was coming up, and questioned availability of Fire Police. Fire Chief noted that it is a work in progress.

- c. Ms. Wozniak provided an update on the proposed microhospital.
- d. Chief Strish noted that the Police Department's 2022 annual report is available online.
- e. Mr. Moccia questioned if the BAJSA owned manholes on Front Street will be raised. Mr. Learn noted that he will talk with BAJSA staff to get an answer.

ITEM 8. OLD BUSINESS:

None

ITEM 9. APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

None

ITEM 10. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider and take action to hire Mr. Paul Zavislak as a part-time administrative assistant for the Berwick Police Department, at an hourly rate and weekly schedule not to exceed \$35,000 gross per annum, prorated for the remainder of 2023.

Discussion: Council discussed proposed hours and rate of pay, before ultimately approving this gross pay.

Motion: Ms. Wozniak Second: Mr. Lewis Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

2. Consider and take action to make repayment in the amount of \$30,346, representing HOME assistance expended for IDIS activity #55952-B-256.

Discussion: Borough Manager verified that this payment would come from the general fund.

Motion: Mr. Lewis Second: Mr. Jarrett Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

3. Consider and take action to request a second extension and contract amendment to the Berwick Borough HOME Contract C000072708 to March 12, 2024.

Discussion: None

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Wozniak Approved, Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

4. Consider and take action to approve American Red Cross request to waive peddler's permit requirements for smoke detector event scheduled for April 21, 2023, with stipulations as follows: all fees will be waived, but permit will still be required for anyone who is not a member of the Berwick Fire Department.

Discussion: Borough Manager discussed reasons for concern over waiving permit requirement entirely, noting that having it in place protects all parties. Borough Manager also noted that all members of the Berwick Fire Department will already have all required clearances as part of their membership with the department.

Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Mr. Moccia Approved,
 Denied, Tabled

All in favor, motion approved.

ITEM 11. ADDED ITEMS

None

ITEM 12. Citizen Correspondence / Personal Appeals - Non-Agenda Items

1. Mr. Darryl Zdanavage, 1125 Arch Street - Requested that Council consider vacating unopened alley that separates two lots he owns. Council asked Borough Manager to draft ordinance and notify owners of any other adjoining lots of consideration.

ITEM 13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion: Mr. Jarrett Second: Ms. Wozniak

Meeting adjourned.